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**NEWS RELEASE**

# Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**



*February 2, 2004*

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**SENATOR GREGG ANNOUNCES \$1.09 MILLION  
TO FIGHT MILFOIL STATEWIDE**

*N.H. DES, Lakes Association initiatives will improve awareness, stop spread of  
invasive species*

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that efforts to stem the spread of milfoil in New Hampshire lakes will receive \$1.09 million in federal funding that was included in the Fiscal Year 2004 Omnibus Appropriations measure signed into law by President Bush in January. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services will receive \$1 million to identify how milfoil grows under various lake conditions; to test newly developed herbicides; to examine if native plant species can affect milfoil's growth; and to develop educational material designed to increase awareness on the dangers of milfoil. The Lakes Association will receive \$90,000 to expand its milfoil "lake host" program from 38 to 55 sites across New Hampshire. The program works to encourage boaters to take steps to prevent the spread of milfoil.

Senator Gregg was able to include funding for the milfoil initiatives through his position as Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that oversees funding for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In Fiscal Year 2003, Senator Gregg secured \$260,100 for the Lakes Association program, and joined the Lake Association for its annual "Lakes Congress" in 2003. Senator Gregg also attended an event with the Lakes Association at Lake Sunapee last summer to discuss milfoil and other issues affecting the well-being of New Hampshire's lakes.

Senator Gregg stated, "Milfoil is not a problem that if left unchecked will correct itself. Invasive weeds like milfoil have the potential to seriously damage the health of our lakes and that is why programs like the ones being undertaken by the Department of Environmental Services and the Lakes Association are so critical. The initiatives receiving federal funding are significant because they work at the problem from all sides – starting with the immediate concern of halting the spread of milfoil from lake to lake by educating boaters at numerous boat launches while at the same time trying to improve the health of the lakes already affected."

N.H. DES Commissioner Michael Nolin stated, "Senator Gregg is to be commended for obtaining this research funding. This is further evidence of his understanding of the threat that milfoil and other exotic species present not only to the environmental health of our lakes and ponds, but to our state's economy. This

grant will provide invaluable research and knowledge on how to address the infestation of exotic species, especially variable milfoil, which has caused declines in the aesthetic, economic, recreational, and wildlife values of our state's waterbodies."

Nancy Christie, President of the New Hampshire Lakes Association, stated, "The New Hampshire Lakes Association is grateful to Senator Gregg for his continuing efforts to address the serious milfoil threat to the state's lakes and ponds. The \$90,000 for the Lake Host program will leverage an equal amount in state funds, to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic weeds at 60 public boat launch sites this summer. The \$1 million for the Department of Environmental Services will help them learn more about the ecology of invasive milfoil and effective treatment methods to better control it. Together, these two grants will go a long way toward protecting the public's enjoyment of N.H.'s beautiful lakes and ponds."

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